Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1154 INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

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SECRET NICOSIA 0618

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PFOR CY TU

SUBJ: TURKISH CYPRIOT RESOLUTION

REF: NICOSIA 0610

1. TURKISH CYPRIOT RESOLUTION (REFTEL) APPEARS DESIGNED, AT MINIMUM, AS EFFORT TO FORESTALL SERIOUS CONSIDERATION OF ANYTHING OTHER THAN BI-REGIONAL FEDERATION AS POSSIBLE SOLUTION TO CYPRUS PROBLEM. IT THUS APPEARS TO BE COUNTER TO RECENT GREEK STATEMENTS FAVORING A MULTI-CANTON SOLUTION (AS OPPOSED TO CLERIDES' POSITION PAPER WHICH MORE GUARDEDLY WORDED). ADDITIONALLY, ANNOUNCED DRAFTING OF LEGISLATION TO FORMALIZE TURKISH WING OF FEDERATED STATE IMPLIES THAT WHATEVER CENTRAL GOVERNMENT MAY EMERGE WILL BE A WEAK ONE. AGAIN, TURKISH GOAL APPEARS TO BE CONFEDERATION RATHER THAN FEDERATED STATE. THIS WILL BE CLEARER ONCE DENKTASH SENDS HIS PAPER TO CLERIDES TOMORROW, FEBRUARY 14. VICE PRESIDENT HAS PROMISED THIS WILL BE PUBLIC DOCUMENT.

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2. RESOLUTION WAS CAREFULLY DRAFTED BY TURKS TO AVOID SUGGESTION

THAT IT COULD BE CONSTRUED AS "DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE." EMPHASIS IS PLACED ON TEMPORARY NATURE TURKISH ACTIONS PENDING AGREED ESTABLISHMENT OF FEDERATED STATE. DRAFT IS CLEVERLY DESIGNED EFFORT TO DEFLECT INTERNATIONAL CRITICISM AND AVOID CHARGE THAT GOT DISMANTLING AN INDEPENDENT STATE.

- 3. WE CAN ANTICIPATE, HOWEVER, THAT TURK CYPRIOTS WILL SEEK ADDITIONAL TRAPPINGS OF SOVEREIGNTY (ISSUANCE OF PASSPORTS, ETC.) WHICH MAY BELIE THEIR DECLARED INTENT OF MAINTAINING INTEGRATED STATE.
- 4. GREEK CYPRIOT REACTION TO RESOLUTION WILL BE CRUCIAL IN DETERMINING WHERE WE GO FROM HERE. FONMIN CHRISTOPHIDES CALLED AMBASSADOR SHORTLY AFTER RESOLUTION MADE PUBLIC. HIS INITIAL INCLINATION WAS TO TAKE MATTER IMMEDIATELY TO SECURITY COUNCIL. AMBASSADOR CAUTIONED CHRISTOPHIDES TO CONSIDER MOVE CAREFULLY, SUGGESTING THAT IT PREFERABLE KEEP LOCAL NEGOTIATION ALIVE AND TO THAT PURPOSE CLERIDES MIGHT ASK CLARIFICATION OF TURKISH INTENTIONS AT NEXT SESSION SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 14. GOC CABINET AND NATIONAL COUNCIL CURRENTLY MEETING. THEIR DECISION MAY BE PUBLIC SHORTLY.
- 5. ASIDE FROM INTERNATIONAL MOVES, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT GOC MAY ATTEMPT IMPOSE DIPLOMATIC BLOCKADE ON TURKISH AREA (AS WAS DONE IN MIDDLE 1960'S) OR TAKE SOME OTHER STEP TO ISOLATE TURKISH CYPRIOTS. THIS COULD CAUSE PROBLEMS LOCALLY.
- 6. UNTIL SITUATION CLEARS, WE WILL BE CAREFUL TAKE NO ACTION WHICH MIGHT CONSTITUTE RECOGNITION OF TURKISH CYPRIOT ACTION BUT WILL TRY CONTINUE FUNCTIONING UNDER EXISTING GROUND RULES. UNFORTUNATELY, ACTION BY EITHER SIDE MAY PRECLUDE THIS. CRAWFORD

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